

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EPA-01 OES-03 ERDA-05 OMB-01

NRC-05 ACDA-05 /088 W

----- 071591

R 101856Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3612

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CNO

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMNAVSEASCOM WASHDC

COMFAIRMED

COMSUBGRUEIGHT NAPLES

USDOCOSOUTH

COMSUBREFITRAGRU LA MADDALENA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 14786

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MNUC, MARR, MPOL, IT, OCON, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE INTEREST IN NUCLEAR POWER WARSHIP ACTIVITIES  
IN ITALY

1. ON OCTOBER 9 JAPANESE EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY KAWASE CALLED  
ON EMBASSY POL/MIL OFFICER TO DISCUSS RECENT "NEWSPAPER ARTICLE"  
ON SEPTEMBER 24-25 CONFERENCE ON "ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF USN  
NUCLEAR PRESENCE AT LA MADDALENA". (FULL REPORT ON CONFERENCE  
IS IN PREPARATION AND WILL FOLLOW BY SEPTTEL.)

2. POL/MIL OFFICER HAD ASSUMED JAPANESE INTERLOCUTOR WANTED TO  
DISCUSS ARTICLES WHICH HAD APPEARED IN ITALIAN PRESS. INSTEAD  
KAWASE HAD BEEN ASKED BY JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO INQUIRE AS  
TO VERACITY OF AN ACCOUNT OF THE CONFERENCE WHICH RECENTLY  
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APPEARED IN JAPANESE COMMUNIST PARTY ORGAN "RED FLAG". JAPANESE

EMBASSY ONLY HAD SUMMARY OF ARTICLE WHICH INDICATED THAT CONFERENCE HAD STRESSED RELATIONSHIP OF DETENTE AND DISARMAMENT TO PRESENCE OF USN SSNS AND CALLED UPON GOVERNMENT OF ITALY TO DO ITS BIT FOR DISARMAMENT BY PROMOTING THE REDUCTION OF NUCLEAR FORCES IN THE AREA. ARTICLE PURPORTEDLY URGED JAPANESE PARLIAMENT TO DO THE SAME.

3. OUR EMBOFF RESPONDED THAT HE WAS SURPRISED EVENT HAD RECEIVED COVERAGE IN FOREIGN MEDIA AS IT HAD RECEIVED RELATIVELY SPARSE ATTENTION IN ITALY. IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT TECHNICAL EXPERTS AT CONFERENCE HAD DEMONSTRATED THAT RADIOLOGICAL LEVELS NEAR LA MADDALENA HAD NOT INCREASED AT ALL SINCE 1972. IT WAS ALSO SPELLED OUT THAT ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY SPEAKER AT CONFERENCE WAS ONLY ONE TO HAVE MADE THE POINTS WHICH WERE EVIDENTLY CARRIED IN "RED FLAG".

4. KAWASE SAID HE HAD FOLLOWED PRESS COVERAGE OF CONFERENCE AND HAD BEEN IMPRESSED THAT TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS HAD LEFT NO DOUBT AS TO SAFETY FROM RADIOLOGICAL VIEWPOINT. HE TOO HAD BEEN SURPRISED AT COVERAGE IN "RED FLAG". HE SPECULATED THAT RECENT VISIT TO ITALY BY MEMBERS OF JAPANESE COMMUNIST PARTY AT INVITATION OF THEIR ITALIAN COUNTERPARTS MAY HAVE LED TO ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS LINKS WHICH WILL BE USED TO JOINTLY PUBLICIZE EACH OTHERS' CAUSES.

5. JAPANESE COLLEAGUE WAS ASSURED THAT THIS EMBASSY DID NOT BELIEVE CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS WOULD REALIZE THEIR GOAL OF PROVOKING FULL SCALE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE OF LA MADDALENA, NOR WOULD THEY SUCCEED AT CONVINCING GOI TO "SUSPEND" VISITS UNTIL SUCH A DEBATE HAD BEEN CONCLUDED AND THE PARLIAMENT GIVEN THEIR EXPLICIT APPROVAL TO USN NUCLEAR PRESENCE AT LA MADDALENA. IN FACT, IN THE TWO WEEKS FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE, DOMESTIC AND SPANISH EVENTS HAVE OCCUPIED INTEREST OF LEFT AND ONLY TWO FOLLOW UP ARTICLES HAVE APPEARED IN NEWSPAPERS OR NATIONAL MAGAZINES RELATED TO THE LA MADDALENA CONFERENCE.

6. WHILE JAPANESE EMBASSY HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE US WITH TEXT OF "RED FLAG" ARTICLE WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING TRANSLATIONS OF IT OR SIMILAR ARTICLES WHICH MAY APPEAR IN THE JAPANESE PRESS. VOLPE  
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NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, NUCLEAR POWERED SHIPS, NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Subject:** JAPANESE INTEREST IN NUCLEAR POWER WARSHIP ACTIVITIES IN ITALY  
**TAGS:** MNUC, MARR, MPOL, OCON, IT, JA, US  
**To:** STATE TOKYO  
**Type:** TE  
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